

Public Realm Advisory Committee
July 16, 2013
Building Board Room

Attendance:

<p><u>Members:</u> Councillor Alex Chiu Councillor Logan Kanapathi</p> <p><u>Regrets:</u> Councillor Valerie Burke Hanif Nori, Chair Omar Bhatti Sadiq Pirani Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning Warren Rupnarain, Accessibility Coordinator</p>	<p><u>Staff:</u> Karen Boniface, Technical Coordinator Paul Ingham, Director, Operations Vanessa Goldgrub, Public Realm Summer Student Catherine Jay, Manager, Urban Design Biju Karumanchery, Senior Development Manager Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services Rino Mostacci, Director of Planning and Urban Design Francine Périnet, Director of the Art Gallery Rachel Prudhomme, Manager of Special Projects Michael Sraga, Senior Planner Urban design Bob Walters, Manager of Parks Operations Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator</p>
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The Public Realm Advisory Committee convened at 3:37 p.m. with Councillor Alex Chiu presiding as Chair.

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The approval of the minutes was deferred to the next meeting as there was no quorum.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There was no business arising from the previous meeting.

3. PUBLIC ART/PUBLIC REALM UPDATE

Bike Racks

Staff will move forward with a budget request for the bike racks.

Traffic Control Boxes

An artist has been requested to come up with ideas for beautifying traffic control boxes in Markham. The City plans to reach out to the utility organizations to see if they will partner with the City in this initiative. It was suggested that beautifying the traffic control boxes would help prevent graffiti.

Henderson Mural

The City is waiting for approval from the Canadian National Railway (CN) to install the mural on the Henderson bridge.

Website

Staff are working on putting more information on Markham's website regarding the public realm. A handout with some of the information to be included on the website was circulated to the committee.

4. UPDATE ON PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY, POLICIES AND MANUAL

Allison Harrington, Paul Carabott and Peter Smith provided a presentation entitled "City of Markham Public Realm Strategy & Policies: Engaging, Sustaining and Beautiful". The presentation included the following:

- Highlights from the workshop and interviews conducted by the consultant;
- A review of best practices with respect to improving/managing the public realm;
- A gap analysis;
- Goals & objectives;
- The Public Realm Strategy;
- Policy/project samples;
- The next steps.

A copy of the presentation will be circulated to the Committee by email.

Committee Feedback

The Committee provided the following feedback regarding the proposed Public Realm Strategy:

- The policy should be easily understood by staff, Members of Council and the public;
- The policy should be simple and easy to apply;
- Simple language should be used throughout the policy;
- The policy should include lots of definitions;
- The policy should consider the unique attributes of each neighbourhood.

5. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

6. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The Committee Clerk will survey the Committee to see whether enough members are available to hold a Public Realm Advisory Committee/Staff working team meeting on July 30, 2013. It was suggested that

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another meeting be held in early September prior to the presentation on the Public Realm Strategy being brought forward to the General Committee in the fall.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Realm Advisory Committee adjourned at 5:10 p.m.